

Minutes Wellfleet Energy Committee Meeting, Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 4 pm at
Town Hall

Present: Jim Sexton, Peter Stewart, Paul Banner, Paul Weber, Geof Karlson, Bill Sullivan, Dick Elkin, Kathy Hubby and Paul Sieloff

Geof Karlson called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. The agenda was approved. The minutes of the 2/16/10 meeting were approved.

Update on the Fire Station solar : the Town received notice of a \$145,000 ARRA (stimulus) grant for fund the cost of the fire solar station project in its entirety. The project will now go forward. Mr. Sieloff from the audience indicated that the Assistant Town Administrator was communicating with Ostrow Electric about their schedule for beginning work. The Committee discussed the possible disposition of the remaining funds from the Library project that had been earmarked for the fire station but would now not be needed.

Karlson reported that Vestas had indicated in recent weeks that the V82 turbine is phased out and will not be available within Wellfleet's purchase time frame. WEC will use the V90 for projections and budgeting. In the bids it is for a class of turbine not a model. Since the blades are 44 meters and the maximum blade tip height is 135 meters (410.15 feet), the Assistant Town Administrator made a timely decision on 2/27/10 to add an article to the Spring Town Meeting warrant to amend the zoning by-law to allow for a higher maximum tip height. Karlson reported that the expected energy production for the V90 would be 18% higher than the V82 for Wellfleet's wind profile.

A new proposed pro forma budget, updated for cost and energy output data for the V90 turbine, was distributed and discussed. The Committee approved the proposed budget without change. The 3 pages of the pro forma budget will be put on the web site.

A motion by Geof and seconded by Jim: "WEC recommend to Mr. Sieloff to open discussions with Cape Light Compact on a possible contract for purchase of Renewable Energy Certificates for production of the proposed wind turbine, for an amount and duration to be decided." Motion passed unanimously.

A petitioned amendment to require a balloon test prior to applying for a municipal wind turbine special permit was submitted by Denny O'Connell to the Town Clerk on February 26, 2010. The Committee discussed the issue of the 3000 foot distance allowance from the proposed turbine site in the amendment with Mr. O'Connell (from the audience). It was pointed out by Karlson that if the purpose of the balloon test is to allow people to see the height as it will actually appear from

different vantage points, then allowing a 3000 foot distance from the site for the balloon would not serve the purpose of the amendment. Also discussed was lengthening the requirement of a maximum of 60 days prior to the special permit application to six months, so that the test could be more feasibly scheduled for low-wind conditions. Karlson suggested that a modified amendment might be put forward by the Board of Selectmen reflecting suggested changes. Mr. O'Connell indicated that he did not have a problem with modifications to the amendment relating to the specific distance allowed from the site itself.

A motion by Dick and seconded by Geof: "The sense of WEC is to support holding a balloon test for the current wind turbine project". Motion passed with Peter and Paul B abstaining.

The proposed 4/10/10 Wind Turbine Public Information Meeting was discussed. The COA is reserved for the meeting for the entire day (morning and afternoon). The Town's acoustic consultant is already contracted to attend. There will also be time for financial, flicker and whatever is available at that time on the environmental assessment. There also may be a session on the financial aspects of the project. A possible schedule was discussed. The possible schedule included: e major sessions on acoustic and flicker studies, an overview of the environmental assessment program, and a shorter session on the financial issues.

A motion was made by Geof and seconded by Dick: "That any group that wishes to propose a consultant(s) to attend shall be required to send to WEC a list with names, references and contact information, and resumes for the 4/10/10 meeting.". Motion passed unanimously. No commitment was made by the Committee to support any particular level of external consultant participation.

Dick Elkin asked if it was possible for an audio demonstration that would simulate the ambient sound levels and the sound levels with the added turbine sound that are estimated in the acoustic analysis. Karlson said he would ask the acoustic consultant about that.

Wind Turbine project Updates:

1. Interconnection study from NSTAR – NSTAR gave a \$2,500 estimate for this study.
2. MESA filing – initial list of requirement this week.
3. Insurance costs – received
4. Photo simulations – received – some will be put up on display at the library and on web site

Environmental Assessment RFP for Wind Turbine Project (timetable extended): The evaluation committee will be appointed by Paul Seiloff. Peter Stewart, Kathy

Hubby, Paul Weber, Geof Karlson, and Hillary Greenberg (Health & Conservation Agent) indicated they are available and willing to participate in the Evaluation Committee. are available. Jim walked the White Crest property today with 10 companies. The proposals are due 3/8/10.

Geof attended the 2/24/10 FinCom meeting. He passed out their written questions and his proposed answers. They will be discussed at the next meeting.

The questions submitted to the Wellfleet Forum for the 3/1/10 meeting and Geof's answers will be discussed at the next meeting.

New Business:

1. Geof would like a request for quotes for an independent financial analyst to review our numbers. He will communicate with the Chief Procurement Officer about that.
2. Joe Carroll introduced himself and explained that he lived at 105 Day Rd which is within 1.5 miles of the proposed site. He has two children and does not want them to be distressed or the property value of his home to fall because of the turbine.
3. Peter S. asked about the invitation to attend the Open Space Co. meeting 3/3/10 at 4 pm Town Hall. Several members decided to attend that briefing.
4. Paul B. passed out a paper concerning promotion of solar power in the Berkeley CA community. Geof suggested it be discussed at the next session in which Paul was going to be in attendance.

The date of the next meeting is 3/9/10 at 1 pm at Town Hall. The first part of the meeting will be open. The evaluation of the Environmental Assessment proposals will be a closed session on Tuesday. The Environmental Assessment Evaluation Committee (to be appoint by Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator) will continue in closed session throughout the remainder of the week, including possible interviews with candidates on Friday, 3/13/10.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Hubby

Approved March 8, 2010